

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject application.

Listing of Claims:

1.-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A fluid-assisted electrosurgical scissors to treat tissue, the scissors comprising:

an end effector comprising a first blade member and a second blade member, the first blade member and the second blade member pivotally connected and arranged to cut tissue;

at least one of the first blade member and the second blade member electrically coupled to an electrical connector connectable to a radio frequency power source;

the first blade member comprising a first blade member shearing edge extending to a distal end of the first blade member and the second blade member comprising a second blade member shearing edge extending to a distal end of the second blade member;

the first blade member comprising a first blade member distal portion, the second blade member comprising a second blade member distal portion and at least one of the distal portions further comprises a bulbous portion protruding from the blade member, the bulbous portion on an exterior side of the blade member proximally adjacent the distal end of the blade member;

a fluid passage in fluid communication with at least one fluid outlet; and

the at least one fluid outlet positioned to expel a fluid to the end effector and obstructed from contact with tissue by at least one of the blade members.

20. (Currently Amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim [[+]] 19 are monopolar electrosurgical scissors.

21. (Currently Amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim [[+]] 19 are laparoscopic electrosurgical scissors.
22. (Cancelled).
23. (Currently Amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim [[+]] 19 wherein:
the first blade member comprises a first blade member exterior surface;
the second blade member comprises a second blade member exterior surface; and
at least one of the first blade member exterior surface and the second blade member exterior surface at least partially comprises an electrically insulative material.
24. (Currently Amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim [[+]] 19 wherein:
the first blade member comprises a first blade member shearing surface;
the second blade member comprises a second blade member shearing surface; and
the first blade member shearing surface and the second blade member shearing surface face one another when the first blade member and the second blade member are in a closed position.
25. (Currently Amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim [[+]] 19 further comprising:
an elongated shaft;
a lumen located within the shaft; and
the lumen providing a portion of the fluid passage.
26. (Currently Amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim [[+]] 19 further comprising:
an elongated shaft; and
the at least one fluid outlet is located within the shaft.
27. (Currently Amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim [[+]] 19 further comprising:
a push rod;

- a lumen located within the push rod; and
the lumen providing a portion of the fluid passage.
28. (Currently Amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim [[+]] 19 wherein:
the fluid passage passes through a connector member which couples the blade members to a push rod.
29. (Currently Amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim [[+]] 19 wherein:
the at least one fluid outlet is provided by a connector member which couples the blade members and a push rod.
30. (Currently Amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim [[+]] 19 wherein:
at least one of the blade members is curved.
31. (Currently Amended) The electrosurgical scissors of claim [[+]] 19 wherein:
the first blade member comprises a first blade member exterior surface;
the second blade member comprises a second blade member exterior surface; and
at least one of the exterior surfaces is configured to slide along tissue while the exterior surface is coupled adjacent the tissue with a fluid expelled from the fluid outlet and radio frequency power is provided to the tissue from the scissors.
32. (Previously Presented) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 31 wherein:
at least one of the exterior surfaces is further configured such that the fluid expelled from the fluid outlet forms a localized fluid coupling between a surface of the tissue and the exterior surface when the exterior surface is located adjacent the surface of the tissue.
- 33.-38. (Cancelled).
39. (New) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:

the first blade member distal portion and the second blade member distal portion each comprise a bulbous portion protruding from the blade member.

40. (New) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:
the bulbous portion protrudes from a convex side of the blade member.
41. (New) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:
the bulbous portion is spherical.
42. (New) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 41 wherein:
the spherical bulbous portion has an electrically conductive spherical surface.
43. (New) The electrosurgical scissors of claim 19 wherein:
the bulbous portion is on an exterior surface of the blade member which opposes an interior side of the blade member having a shearing surface.